

Message Text

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22

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 IO-13 AF-08 SCCT-01 ACDA-07 /096 W

----- 050938

R 080532Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1149

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, IS, UG, XA

SUBJECT: PRC DOMESTIC PRESS ON ISRAELI COMMANDO RAID

1. BREAKING ITS SILENCE ON THE ISRAELI COMMANDO RAID IN UGANDA, THE FIRST NEWS ITEMS TO APPEAR IN THE PRC DOMESTIC MEDIA COMPLETELY IGNORES THE FACT THAT THE ISRAELI ACTION WAS TAKEN IN ORDER TO RESCUE ISRAELI HIJACK VICTIMS BEING HELD HOSTAGE BY PALESTINIAN TERRORISTS. IN FACT, NO BACKGROUND IS PROVIDED CONCERNING WHAT IS DESCRIBED AS "ISRAELI AGGRESSION".

2. THE TWO BRIEF NEWS REPORTS (ONE SOURCED TO KAMPALA AND A SECOND TO PEKING) CITE ONLY A UGANDAN OFFICIAL STATEMENT AND REACTION OF OTHER AFRICAN AND ARAB LEADERS, ALL OF WHICH SHARPLY DENOUNCED THE ACTION.

3. THE FAILURE OF PRC DOMESTIC MEDIA TO ISSUE ITS OWN COMMENTARY ON THE ISSUE CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH THE DECIDELY ANTI-ISRAELI STANCE TAKEN BY THE HONG KONG COMMUNIST PRESS (HONG KONG 7882). HOWEVER THE NCNA COVERAGE LEAVES LITTLE DOUBT THAT PEKING SHARES THE CRITICAL VIEWS OF AFRICAN AND ARAB LEADERS BUT THAT CHINESE AUTHORITIES PREFER TO AVOID

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GOING ON RECORD AS IMPLICITLY CONDONING INTERNATIONAL HIJACK-

ING AND SIMILAR ACTIVITIES BY TERRORISTS ORGANIZATIONS.
THE DOMESTIC PRC MEDIA ALSO REFRANIED FROM MENTIONING THE
SUPERPOWERS AS THE LOCAL COMMUNIST PRESS HAD DONE.
CROSS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, FOREIGN RELATIONS, RESCUE OPERATIONS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, HOSTAGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Executive Order: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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